



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: September 22, 1999

Release No. 99-76

Contact: Carol Chastang (202) 205-6987

Internet Address: www.sba.gov/news/

SBA MAKES DISASTER LOANS TO NORTH CAROLINA, VIRGINIA RESIDENTS

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will present disaster loan checks to five North Carolina homeowners today in Raleigh, just six days after President Clinton authorized a disaster declaration for 66 counties in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd, Administrator Aida Alvarez announced today.

On Friday, two Virginia residents will receive disaster loan checks.

“SBA is working very hard to get money quickly in the hands of those who lost their homes and businesses during the flooding,” Alvarez said. “We are there in all the states affected by Hurricane Floyd, helping people put their lives back together.”

So far, SBA has approved \$120,000 in disaster loans in North Carolina, and \$34,000 in Virginia. The agency is accepting loan applications from residents and business owners in New Jersey, New York, Delaware, South Carolina and Pennsylvania whose property was damaged by the flood.

Those who suffered flood losses are urged to call the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at (800) 462-9029 to begin the process for federal disaster assistance. SBA staff is available to answer questions about disaster loans, and the toll-free number will operate 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week until further notice.

Homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes may apply for SBA low-interest disaster loans. SBA can lend up to \$200,000 to repair uninsured damages to homes. Homeowners and renters may borrow up to \$40,000 to repair or replace uninsured personal property such as furniture, clothing, and automobiles damaged during the disaster.

Businesses of all sizes may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair uninsured real estate, machinery, inventory and other business assets damaged during the disaster. SBA also makes working capital loans of up to \$1.5 million for small businesses financially impacted by the disaster, even if the property was not physically damaged.

For more information about SBA disaster loans, North and South Carolina residents can call (800) 359-2227. Residents of Virginia, New Jersey, New York, Delaware and Pennsylvania can call (800) 659-2955.

###